

**WORK SESSION  
FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

In compliance with Chapter 231, OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice has been given to all members of the Governing Body, the "Local Source" and the "Westfield Leader" the two newspapers designated to receive such notice. The notice is posted on the Borough Hall bulletin board.

Mayor Paul N. Mirabelli called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM via Zoom.

PRESENT: Mayor Mirabelli, Council President Andre, Councilman Dierkes, Councilman Matejek, Councilman Messler, Councilwoman Pacifico, Councilwoman Pater, Administrator Mortimer and Attorney Post. Also present were CFO Jill Goode, Police Chief Joseph Giannuzzi, Recreation Director Frank Masella and Public Works Director Matthew DeAnna.

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Discussion was held regarding the annual borough donation to the Governor Livingston High School Project Graduation. The proper resolution authorizing the Finance Officer to issue a check for the donation of \$300 will be prepared for the meeting of February 16, 2021.

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Discussion regarding the temporary capital budget will be moved to executive session.

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Discussion was held regarding 2020 budget transfers. State statute allows for transfers within certain appropriations within the reserve municipal budget during the first three months of the fiscal year. The Chief Financial Officer has advised the Council that the need for certain transfers within the 2020 municipal budget exists. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of February 16, 2021.

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Discussion was held regarding a request from the Tax Collector to authorize refunds for tax overpayments due to duplicate payments. The proper resolution will be prepared for the February 16, 2021 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding NJ Local Government Week. Councilwoman Andre announced virtual community activities to recognize and celebrate local government week between April 18<sup>th</sup> through April 24<sup>th</sup>. A resolution will be presented at the March 16, 2021 meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding compensation for the OEM Coordinator Keith Turner. The A&E Committee recommended that the OEM Coordinator be compensated at an annual salary of \$9,500. The proper resolution will be prepared for the meeting of February 16, 2021.

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Discussion was held regarding authorization to advertise for the position of PT Zoning Enforcement Officer. There exists a need to hire a PT Zoning Officer to work 6 hours a week. A classified ad will be posted.

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Discussion was held regarding Volunteer Day. The Council would like to review options for a Volunteer Celebration Day.

Discussion was held regarding an internship program. The program would allow a college student to assist various departments with a focus on specific projects.

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Discussion was held regarding the proposed police department rules and regulations. Attorney Post explained that the Police Department rules and regulations are being updated based on the recommendations of Joseph Santiago and after an extensive review conducted by the Police Chief, Police Committee, Labor Attorney and PBA Attorney. The Ordinance will allow the Police Chief by way of a general order for these rules and regulations to become effective. Police Officers can review the new regulations electronically and marked them as read and received. The ordinance will have a public hearing at the meeting of February 16, 2021.

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Discussion was held regarding the adoption of a stormwater control ordinance. Attorney Post explained that the NJDEP has mandated an update to the stormwater control ordinance and therefore required a review and revision to the borough code regulations. The proper ordinance will be introduced at the February 16, 2021 meeting.

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**BILLS & CLAIMS:**

The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Dierkes and seconded by Councilwoman Andre.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside that the following bills of the persons named and for the amounts stated below, having been duly audited and found to be correct this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February 2021, the same be paid after Council's review, if and when funds are available and that the Mayor, Council President, Administrator and Treasurer are hereby authorized and directed to sign and deliver warrants for same in the amount of \$452,860.66. (Copy of bill list attached)

Roll call: Ayes: Andre, Dierkes, Matejek, Messler, Pacifico, Pater. Nays: 0.

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**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilman Dierkes commended the Fire and Police Department for responding to the Cedar Avenue fire.

Mayor Mirabelli concurred by including the Rescue Squad and also mentioned the mutual aid agreements with surrounding towns.

Councilwoman Andre announced the 8<sup>th</sup> grade pool party scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup> and the closure to pool members.

Councilman Messler commended the DPW and contractor for clearing the roads and mentioned the celebration of a resident's 107<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Mayor Mirabelli read a thank you note from Lisa Fernicola. The Mayor addressed the confusion regarding his latest Covid-19 update.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

A resident questioned recycling pickup tomorrow.

Hearing no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Mirabelli closed the meeting to the public.  
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The following resolution was introduced by Councilman Matejek and seconded by Councilwoman Andre.

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Council is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mountainside, as follows: 1. The public shall be excluded from this discussion. 2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is contracts.

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 8:10 P.M.  
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The meeting was recalled to public session.

Upon a motion by Councilman Messler and a second by Councilwoman Pacifico, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:44 P.M.  
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Martha Lopez, RMC  
Borough Clerk